

**DOE Weekly Field Memo – May 27, 2009**

**From the Department of Education:**

- **ARRA: McKinney Vento ARRA Funding for FY 2009-2010**
- **ARRA: 2009 Allocation for Qualified School Construction Bonds**
- **Solar In Schools Initiative**
- **Special Education Parent Involvement Survey, Spring 2009**
- **Social Studies Inquiry Collaborative**
- **Update: School Health Services Manual – Allergies-Life Threatening Section**
- **Update: New England Arts Assessment Institute**

**From the Department of Health:**

- **Well Exam - Sports Participation Clearance Form**

**ARRA: McKinney Vento ARRA Funding for FY 2009-2010**

**Audience: Superintendents, Principals**

This funding to LEAs is intended to assist with excess transportation expenses to schools of origin, as well as school supplies and other allowable expenses that eliminate barriers for homeless students to enroll, attend and succeed in school. Visit

[http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm\\_homeless.html#mckinney](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_homeless.html#mckinney) for more information.

Contact: Wendy Ross at (802) 828-5148 or [wendy.ross@state.vt.us](mailto:wendy.ross@state.vt.us)

**ARRA: 2009 Allocation for Qualified School Construction Bonds**

**Business Managers, Superintendents, Regional Technical Center Directors, Principals**

Certain school facility improvement projects may be financed at ZERO interest. Application criteria and instructions available at [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm\\_construction.html#qscb](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_construction.html#qscb).

Contact: Cathy Hilgendorf at (802) 828-5402 or [cathy.hilgendorf@state.vt.us](mailto:cathy.hilgendorf@state.vt.us)

**Solar In Schools Initiative**

**Audience: High School Principals, Tech Center Directors, Curriculum Coordinators, Superintendents**

Collaborate on a solar power education program and be awarded a 5kW solar power installation at your school. For more information, visit [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm\\_construction.html#solar](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_construction.html#solar).

Contact: Cathy Hilgendorf at (802) 828-5402 or [cathy.hilgendorf@state.vt.us](mailto:cathy.hilgendorf@state.vt.us)

**Special Education Parent Involvement Survey, Spring 2009**

**Audience: Special Education Directors and Staff, Superintendents, Principals**

The statewide Special Education Parent Involvement Survey will begin to arrive in parents' mailboxes the week of June 1. Now in its fourth year, this survey is mailed each spring to the approximately 13,000 households of parents or legal guardians who have a child receiving special education services through an Individual Education Plan. The purpose of the survey, a requirement resulting from the reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, is to capture parents' feelings of involvement in improving their children's special education services. Results from the 2007 - 2008 Parent Involvement Survey are available in the "Part B Annual Performance Report for 2007 - 2008," beginning on page 30. This report is available online at:

[http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm\\_spед/data\\_reports\\_pubs.html#apr\\_09](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_spед/data_reports_pubs.html#apr_09)

Contact Dave Phillips, Student Support Team Business Analyst, at (802) 828-5936 or [david.phillips@state.vt.us](mailto:david.phillips@state.vt.us).

**Social Studies Inquiry Collaborative**

**Audience: Principals, Superintendents, Curriculum Coordinators**

The Vermont Department of Education, The Vermont Historical Society, The Southeast Vermont Learning Collaborative and The Flow of History Project invite social studies teachers to participate in a special Vermont Social Studies Network designed to further the use of primary sources, inquiry-based learning and assessment in the field of Vermont Studies.

Beginning on July 21, a three-day summer workshop will introduce teachers to Vermont history content, primary source analysis, historical inquiry, and online collaboration. The workshop will be followed up by online collaboration and two in-person workshops through the fall of 2009 as teachers classroom-test their lessons. The content focus of this work will center on the theme "Movement and Settlement" with a focus on the eras of Vermont's early settlement and westward migration in the nineteenth century.

Participants will work together with the goal of developing primary source inquiry projects that can be placed online for public dissemination. Participants will receive a \$400 stipend. For more information visit: <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#collaborative> or <http://www.learningcollaborative.org>.

To register, go to [http://www.learningcollaborative.org/courses\\_workshops\\_detail.htm#vermont](http://www.learningcollaborative.org/courses_workshops_detail.htm#vermont).  
Contact: Sigrid Lumbra at (802) 828-0200 or [sigrid.lumbra@state.vt.us](mailto:sigrid.lumbra@state.vt.us).

#### **Update: School Health Services Manual – Allergies-Life Threatening Section**

**Audience: Principals, Special Education Administrators, School Nurses**

The School Health Services Manual reference to the use of epi-pens has been updated. Please replace page 6 of the Allergies- Life Threatening section of the manual. The Manual is located at [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm\\_health\\_services/health\\_services\\_manual.html](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_health_services/health_services_manual.html).  
Contact: Deb Quackenbush at (802) 828-5877 or [deb.quackenbush@state.vt.us](mailto:deb.quackenbush@state.vt.us)

#### **Update: New England Arts Assessment Institute**

**Audience: K-16 Music, Visual Art, Theatre, Dance and Classroom Teachers**

UPDATE: The New England Arts Assessment Institute has added a “Standards-based Curriculum Design” strand to the New England Arts Assessment Institute taking place August 4-7, 2009 at Castleton State College. A collaboration of the Vermont and New Hampshire Departments of Education and supported by the New England Arts Assessment Network and Castleton State College, this high-quality professional development training is available to all K-16 music, visual art, theatre, dance and classroom teachers and includes an option for three graduate credits. Get the brochure and registration materials at [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#august\\_09](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#august_09) or <http://newenglandarts.ning.com/>.  
Contact: Gail Kilkelly, Coordinator for Arts and World Languages, at (802) 828-6560 or [gail.kilkelly@state.vt.us](mailto:gail.kilkelly@state.vt.us)

#### **From the Department of Health:**

##### **Well Exam - Sports Participation Clearance Form**

**Audience: Principals, School Nurses, Athletic Directors**

Beginning in the 2009-2010 school year, it is now recommended that Vermont students receive a “Well Exam” prior to competing in middle or high school sports. The Well Exam replaces what is commonly known as a “Sports Physical.” This change is supported by the Vermont Principals' Association, the Vermont Departments of Health and Education, the Vermont Chapters of the American Academy of Pediatrics and Family Physicians, and the Vermont State School Nurses' Association. For answers to frequently asked questions and a copy of the Well Exam - Sports Participation Clearance Form click [here](#). For more information call your school nurse regional liaison, listed [here](#).  
Contact: Vermont Department of Health at 800-464-4343 or <http://healthvermont.gov/contact/contact.aspx>.

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#### **Weekly Field Memo is Online!**

The DOE Weekly Field Memo is archived on the Department of Education Web site at [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field\\_memo.html](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html). Field Memos and the corresponding attachments are available for download. For Field Memo information three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Jill Remick, communications director, at (802) 828-3154 or [jill.remick@state.vt.us](mailto:jill.remick@state.vt.us).

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

For the Department of Education Web site see: <http://education.vermont.gov/>. For upcoming events or professional development opportunities, see the DOE Calendar of Events located at: <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html>.

Main Department Line: (802) 828-3135

NOTE: For comments or questions specific to the messages above, please contact the person listed. DO NOT reply to this message.

This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Department of Education to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the department will still be sent.